

BRIDGE ACROSS BLACK RIVER, ARK.

JANUARY 28, 1925.—Referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed

Mr. PARKS of Arkansas, from the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. 3885]

The Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, to whom was referred the bill (S. 3885) granting the consent of Congress to Harry E. Bovay, of Stuttgart, Ark., to construct, maintain, and operate a bridge across the Black River at or near the city of Black Rock, in the county of Lawrence, in the State of Arkansas, having considered the same, report thereon with amendments and as so amended recommend that it pass.

The bill as amended has the approval of the War and Agriculture Departments, as will appear by the letters attached and which are made a part of this report.

Amend the bill as follows:

Page 2, line 2, after the end of the line, insert a new paragraph reading as follows:

SEC. 2. That the State of Arkansas, or any political subdivision or division thereof within or adjoining which said bridge is located, may at any time, by agreement or by condemnation according to laws of said State, acquire all right, title, and interest in said bridge and the approaches thereto, constructed under authority of this act, for the purpose of maintaining and operating such bridge as a free bridge by the payment to the owners of the reasonable value thereof, not to exceed in any event the construction cost thereof: *Provided*, That the said State or political subdivision or division thereof may operate such bridge as a toll bridge not to exceed five years from date of acquisition thereof.

Page 2, line 3, change "2" to "3."

WAR DEPARTMENT, *January 14, 1925.*

Respectfully returned to the chairman Committee on Commerce, United States Senate.

So far as the interests committed to this department are concerned, I know of no objection to the favorable consideration of the accompanying bill, S. 3885, Sixty-eighth Congress, second session, granting the consent of Congress to Harry

E. Bovay, of Stuttgart, Ark., to construct, maintain, and operate a bridge across the Black River, at or near the city of Black Rock, in the county of Lawrence, in the State of Arkansas.

As the navigable portions of the Black River do not lie within the limits of a single State, the consent of Congress is required under section 9 of the river and harbor act of March 3, 1899 (30 Stat. 1151), for the construction of a bridge thereover.

JOHN W. WEEKS, *Secretary of War.*

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
Washington, January 23, 1925.

HON. SAMUEL E. WINSLOW,
*Chairman Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce,
House of Representatives.*

DEAR MR. WINSLOW: Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of January 8, inclosing a copy of H. R. 11311 for report thereon and for such views relative thereto as the department might desire to communicate.

This bill would grant the consent of Congress to Harry E. Bovay, of Stuttgart, Ark., his successors and assigns, to construct, maintain, and operate a bridge and approaches thereto across the Black River at or near the city of Black Rock, Lawrence County, Ark. The proposed bridge undoubtedly would be a toll bridge, and would be located at a very important stream crossing on the system of Federal-aid highways approved for the State of Arkansas. The department, therefore, would regret very much if a privately owned toll bridge, such as this would be, should be constructed at this point.

It is regretted that there has been delay in reporting to the committee upon this bill. The department was advised by wire on January 12 that data concerning this bridge would be forwarded immediately and reply to the committee's request for report was delayed pending receipt of same. This, however, has not yet been received and if upon its receipt it should be deemed desirable to make additional representations to the committee a further communication will be addressed to you.

Sincerely,

C. F. MARVIN, *Acting Secretary.*

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